

108
Greatest Of All Times



Globally selected
Personalities



Don't be attracted to easy paths
because the paths that make your
feet bleed are the only way to get
ahead in life.

— Saddam Hussein —

AZ QUOTES

28 Apl 1937 <::><::><::> 30 Dec 2006

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Compiled by:

Prof Dr S Ramalingam



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30 Dec 2006

Saddam Hussein

صدام حسين



Saddam in 1998

5th [President of Iraq](#)

In office

16 July 1979 – 9 April 2003

Prime Minister

- Himself (1979–1991)
- [Sa'dun Hammadi](#) (1991)
- [Mohammed Hamza Zubeidi](#) (1991–1993)
- [Ahmad Husayn Khudayir as-Samarrai](#) (1993–1994)
- Himself (1994–2003)

Vice President

- [Taha Muhie-eldin Marouf](#) (1974–2003)
- [Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri](#) (1979–2003)
- [Taha Yassin Ramadan](#) (1991–2003)

Preceded by

[Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr](#)

Succeeded by

- [Jay Garner](#) (as [Director of the Office for Reconstruction and](#)

[Humanitarian Assistance of Iraq](#))

- [Jalal Talabani](#) (2005)

Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council

In office

16 July 1979 – 9 April 2003

Preceded by Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr

Succeeded by Office abolished

Prime Minister of Iraq

In office

29 May 1994 – 9 April 2003

President Himself

Preceded by [Ahmad Husayn Khudayir as-Samarrai](#)

Succeeded by [Mohammad Bahr al-Ulloum](#) (as [Acting President of the Governing Council of Iraq](#))

In office

16 July 1979 – 23 March 1991

President Himself

Preceded by Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr

Succeeded by [Sa'dun Hammadi](#)

Secretary General of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party

In office

January 1992 – 30 December 2006

Preceded by [Michel Aflaq](#)

Succeeded by [Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri](#)

Regional Secretary of the Regional Command of the Iraqi Regional Branch

In office

16 July 1979 – 30 December 2006

National Secretary

- [Michel Aflaq](#) (until 1989)
- Himself (from 1989)

Preceded by Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr

Succeeded by Izzat Ibrahim ad-Douri

In office

February 1964 – October 1966

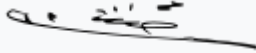


Preceded by Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr

Succeeded by Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr

Vice President of Iraq

In office

17 July 1968 – 15 July 1979

President	Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr
Preceded by	Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr
Succeeded by	Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri
Member of the Regional Command of the Iraqi Regional Branch	
In office February 1964 – 9 April 2003	
Personal details	
Born	28 April 1937 ^[a] Al-Awja , Saladin Governorate , Kingdom of Iraq
Died	30 December 2006 (aged 69) Camp Justice , Kadhimiya, Baghdad , Iraq
Cause of death	Execution by hanging
Resting place	Al-Awja, Saladin Governorate, Iraq
Political party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party (1957–1966) Iraq-based Ba'ath Party (1966–2006)
Spouses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sajida Talfah (m. 1963) Samira Shahbandar (m. 1986)
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uday (deceased) Qusay (deceased) Raghad Rana Hala
Signature	
Military service	
Allegiance	 Iraq
Branch/service	Iraqi Armed Forces
Rank	Marshal
Battles/wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Iraqi–Kurdish War Iran–Iraq War Gulf War 1991 Iraqi uprisings Iraq War 

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddam_Hussein

Presidency (1979–2003)

Saddam Hussain

Domestic policy

Succession

In 1976, Saddam rose to the position of general in the Iraqi armed forces, and rapidly became the [strongman](#) of the government. As the ailing, elderly al-Bakr became unable to execute his duties, Saddam took on an increasingly prominent role as the face of the government both internally and externally. He soon became the architect of Iraq's foreign policy and represented the nation in all diplomatic situations. He was the *de facto* leader of Iraq some years before he formally came to power in 1979. He slowly began to consolidate his power over Iraq's government and the Ba'ath party. Relationships with fellow party members were carefully cultivated, and Saddam soon accumulated a powerful circle of support within the party.

In 1979, al-Bakr started to make treaties with Syria, also under Ba'athist leadership, that would lead to unification between the two countries. Syrian President [Hafiz al-Assad](#) would become deputy leader in a union, and this would drive Saddam to obscurity. Saddam acted to secure his grip on power. He forced the ailing al-Bakr to resign on 16 July 1979, and formally assumed the presidency.

1979 Ba'ath Party Purge

Saddam convened an assembly of Ba'ath party leaders on 22 July 1979. During the assembly, which he ordered videotaped, Saddam claimed to have found a [fifth column](#) within the Ba'ath Party and directed Muhyi Abdel-Hussein to read out a confession and the names of 68 alleged co-conspirators. These members were labelled "disloyal" and were removed from the room one by one and taken into custody. After the list was read, Saddam congratulated those still seated in the room for their past and future loyalty. The 68 people arrested at the meeting were subsequently tried together and found guilty of [treason](#); 22 were sentenced to execution. Other high-ranking members of the party formed the firing squad. By 1 August 1979, hundreds of high-ranking Ba'ath party members had been executed.

Kurdish autonomy

Although his position on Kurdish politics has been debated, Saddam has allowed autonomy for the Kurds to an extent, with [Kurds](#) being allowed to speak Kurdish in schools, on television, and even in newspapers, with textbooks being translated for the Kurdish regions, and Kurds in Iraq being able to elect a Kurdish representative to go to Baghdad. Saddam had already signed a [deal in 1970 to grant the Kurds autonomy](#), but Mustafa Barazani eventually disagreed with the deal, which incited the [Second Iraqi–Kurdish War](#).

Education and literacy reforms



Iraqi students posing for school photos in a unknown school location

Under [Saddam's regime](#), substantial reforms in education and literacy took place, with Saddam Hussein introducing mandatory reading groups for adults, with punishments for not attending consisting of heavy fines, and even jail time. [UNESCO](#) awarded Iraq for having "Most effective literacy campaign in the world.",^[70] with estimates being that in 1979 alone, over 2 million Iraqi adults were studying in more than 28,735 literacy schools, with over 75,000 teachers.^[71] Saddam Hussein's regime also mandated education for primary to high school, with Saddam's regime also mandating free tuition for university students.



Iraqi students getting onto a school bus

Saddam also took steps to promote women's rights within Iraq. By the late 1970s, women in Iraq held significant roles in society, representing 46% of all teachers, 29% of all doctors, 46% of all dentist and 70% of all pharmacists. These advancements signalled progress in women's participation in various professional fields. Women also saw drastic increase in rights in other-aspects of life, with women being given equal-rights in marriage, divorce, inheritance, and custody. Women in Iraq also had the ability to pass their citizenship down to their children even if they married a non-Iraqi, which Iraqi women no longer have the ability to do. Women's education no longer was a luxury, with women having the same opportunities as men in higher education.

He also introduced social security programs, with the notable parts of the program consisting of disability benefits, with disabled people in Iraq becoming eligible for financial assistance. It also introduced healthcare coverage, ensuring Iraqi citizens had access to healthcare and medication when needed, Although during the 90's Iraqi-healthcare decreased in its effectiveness with the sanctions restricting basic-medical equipment and supplies from getting into Iraq.

Socio-economic reforms

Nationalization of oil was implemented, which aimed to achieve economic independence. By the late 1970s, Iraq experienced significant economic growth, with a [budget reserve](#) surpassing US\$35 billion. The value of 1 Iraqi dinar was worth more than 3 dollars, making it one of the most notable economic expansions in the region. Saddam Hussein's regime aimed to diversify the Iraqi economy beyond oil. The government invested in various industries, including petrochemicals, fertilizer

production, and textile manufacturing, to reduce dependence on oil revenues and promote economic self-sufficiency. By the 1970s, women employment rate also increased.

Following the invasion of Kuwait which initiated the Gulf War, Iraq was [sanctioned](#) by the [UN](#), which caused economic decline. In 1995, then U.S. president [Bill Clinton](#) introduced [Oil-for-Food Programme](#), in which Iraq sold oil on the world market in exchange for humanitarian needs. The program was accepted by the Ba'athist government in 1996. By 1995, GDP of Iraq dropped to US\$9 billion from US\$44.36 billion in 1990. Iraq had lost around US\$170 billion of oil revenues. The economy of Iraq began improving in 2000, as its GDP increased to US\$23.73 billion by 2000.

Saddam pursued to beautify the cities of Iraq. He launched various projects across the cities, beautifying it. Many monuments were constructed in Baghdad, such as the [Al-Shaheed Monument](#) and [Monument to the Unknown Soldier](#), which helped in beautifying the city of Baghdad. Under his regime, Iraq engaged in rapid infrastructural development. Baghdad Airport was inaugurated in 1982, bearing his name "Saddam International Airport". He also proposed the Baghdad Metro project in 1980, though it did not ultimately come to fruition, due to troubles concerning the [Iran-Iraq War](#). Throughout the 24 years of his presidency, Saddam built more than 100 palaces across the country.

Freedom of religion



Saddam talking to [Michel Aflaq](#),
the founder of [Ba'athist thought](#), in [Baghdad](#), 1988

Saddam led Iraq under a secular government, as different religious minorities lived in the country. Though the [sectarian tensions between Sunni and Shia Muslims](#) were high during his regime. Saddam had somewhat tense relations with [Shia Muslims](#). Most of his supporters believe that he had hostilities with pro-Iranian Shia and imposed crackdown on their political activism. Tensions were high at the time of the [1991](#) and [1999 uprisings](#). During the Iran–Iraq War, he sought to gain support from Shia community. As 80% of the [Iraqi Armed Forces](#) were Shia Muslim personnel. They chose Iraq over Iran and fought against it. Numerous Shia held positions in his government. [Muhammad Saeed al-Sahhaf](#), a Shia Muslim, was Saddam's [minister of foreign affairs](#) from 1991 to 2001 and later [information minister](#), until 2003.

Before 2003, more than 1.2 million Christians lived in Iraq. [Tariq Aziz](#), who was an Iraqi [Chaldean Christian](#), held various political positions in the Ba'athist government and was a close advisor and friend of Saddam. [Michel Aflaq](#), the founder of Ba'athist

ideology, which Saddam followed, was himself a [Syrian Christian](#). Due to close relations with Chaldean Christians, Saddam donated heavily to Chaldean churches and institutions across the United States, among them the Sacred Heart Chaldean Church, which he donated 250 000\$ first, and later donated another 200 000\$, earning him a [key to the city](#) to [Detroit](#), despite having hostile relations. Cardinal [Fernando Filoni](#), who was Vatican's ambassador to Iraq, stated that under his regime, Christians were free to practice their faith in the majority-Muslim country. Prior to the U.S. invasion, [Pope John Paul II](#) visited Saddam in March 2003 and addressed the message for peace.

The fortune of remaining 1,000 Jews in Iraq improved as Saddam came to power. He granted them protection and freedom to practice their religion. Saddam helped in restoration of the [Meir Taweig Synagogue](#) and construction of [Al-Habibiyah Jewish Cemetery](#), both in Baghdad. The Ba'ath Security Forces also protected Jewish sites across Iraq, some of which were also revered by Muslims and Christians. Several Jews also held positions in the government and served in the military. The government also sent a Jewish chemist from [Basra](#) to represent it on a trade mission to [China](#) in 1988. An incident happened in 1998, on the day of Jewish festival [Sukkot](#). A Palestinian man shot four people to death at the Baghdad Synagogue, including two Jews. After the arrest of the perpetrator, the government condemned the attack, in a meeting chaired by Saddam. Saddam's childhood neighbor in [Al-Awja](#) was also a Jewish family, who helped his mother during her hard days and his birth.

Saddam was also recognized for safeguarding the [Mandaean](#) minority in Iraq. Mandeans were given state protection under his government, As a sign of respect, the [Mandaean Book of John's](#) first copy translation into Arabic was given to Saddam. After this he vowed to construct temples for the Mandeans, with quoting, "Iraqis have religious freedom, whether they are Muslims, Christians or [Sabaeans](#)". The [Sabian-Mandaean Mandi](#) in [Baghdad](#) was built on land donated by him. Mandeans were some of the best goldsmiths and jewelers in Iraq, with Saddam's personal jeweler being of Mandaean background. However, after his downfall, Mandeans faced severe persecution, and constant kidnappings. They often expressed that they were better under Saddam's rule, and praise him for the protection they received.

Paramilitary and police organizations

Iraqi society fissures along lines of language, religion and ethnicity. The Ba'ath Party, secular by nature, adopted Pan-Arab ideologies which in turn were problematic for significant parts of the population. Following the [Iranian Revolution](#) of 1979, Iraq faced the prospect of régime change from two Shi'ite factions ([Dawa](#) and [SCIRI](#)) which aspired to model Iraq on its neighbour Iran as a Shia theocracy. A separate threat to Iraq came from parts of the ethnic Kurdish population of [northern Iraq](#) which opposed being part of an Iraqi state and favored independence (an ongoing ideology which had preceded Ba'ath Party rule). To alleviate the threat of revolution, Saddam afforded certain benefits to the potentially hostile population. Membership in the Ba'ath Party remained open to all Iraqi citizens regardless of background, and repressive measures were taken against its opponents.

The major instruments for accomplishing this control were the paramilitary and police organizations. Beginning in 1974, [Taha Yassin Ramadan](#) (himself a Kurdish Ba'athist), a close associate of Saddam, commanded the [People's Army](#), which had responsibility for internal security. As the Ba'ath Party's paramilitary, the People's Army acted as a counterweight against any coup attempts by the regular armed forces. In addition to the People's Army, the Department of General Intelligence was the most notorious arm of the state-security system, feared for its use of [torture](#) and assassination. [Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti](#), Saddam's younger [half-brother](#), commanded Mukhabarat. Foreign observers believed that from 1982 this department operated both at home and abroad in its mission to seek out and eliminate Saddam's perceived opponents.

Saddam was notable for using terror against his own people. *The Economist* described Saddam as "one of the last of the 20th century's great dictators, but not the least in terms of egotism, or cruelty, or morbid will to power." Saddam's regime brought about the deaths of at least 250,000 Iraqis and committed [war crimes](#) in Iran, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. [Human Rights Watch](#) and [Amnesty International](#) issued regular reports of widespread [imprisonment](#) and torture. Conversely, Saddam used Iraq's oil wealth to develop an extensive [patronage](#) system for the regime's supporters.

Although Saddam is often described as a [totalitarian](#) leader, Joseph Sassoon notes that there are important differences between Saddam's repression and the totalitarianism practiced by [Adolf Hitler](#) and [Joseph Stalin](#), particularly with regard to [freedom of movement](#) and [freedom of religion](#).^[102]

Foreign policy

Foreign affairs

Saddam developed a reputation for liking expensive goods, such as his diamond-coated [Rolex](#) wristwatch, and sent copies of them to his friends around the world. To his ally [Kenneth Kaunda](#) Saddam once sent a Boeing 747 full of presents—rugs, televisions, ornaments. Saddam enjoyed a close relationship with Russian intelligence agent [Yevgeny Primakov](#) that dated back to the 1960s; Primakov may have helped Saddam to stay in power in 1991.

Saddam visited only two Western countries. The first visit took place in December 1974, when the [Caudillo](#) of Spain, [Francisco Franco](#), invited him to [Madrid](#) and he visited [Granada](#), [Córdoba](#) and [Toledo](#). In September 1975 he met with Prime Minister [Jacques Chirac](#) in [Paris](#), France.

Several Iraqi leaders, Lebanese arms merchant [Sarkis Soghanalian](#) and others have claimed that Saddam financed Chirac's party. In 1991 Saddam threatened to expose those who had taken largesse from him: "From Mr. Chirac to Mr. Chevènement, politicians and economic leaders were in open competition to spend time with us and flatter us. We have now grasped the reality of the situation. If the trickery continues, we will be forced to unmask them, all of them, before the French public." France armed Saddam and it was Iraq's largest trade partner throughout Saddam's rule. Seized documents show how French officials and businessmen close to Chirac,

including [Charles Pasqua](#), his former interior minister, personally benefitted from the deals with Saddam.

Because Saddam Hussein rarely left Iraq, [Tariq Aziz](#), one of Saddam's aides, traveled abroad extensively and represented Iraq at many diplomatic meetings. In foreign affairs, Saddam sought to have Iraq play a leading role in the Middle East. Iraq signed an aid pact with the Soviet Union in 1972, and arms were sent along with several thousand advisers. The 1978 crackdown on [Iraqi Communists](#) and a shift of trade toward the West strained Iraqi relations with the Soviet Union; Iraq then took on a more Western orientation until the [Gulf War](#) in 1991.

After the [oil crisis](#) of 1973, France had changed to a more pro-Arab policy and was accordingly rewarded by Saddam with closer ties. He made a state visit to France in 1975, cementing close ties with some French business and ruling political circles. In 1975 Saddam negotiated an accord with Iran that contained Iraqi concessions on border disputes. In return, Iran agreed to stop supporting opposition Kurds in Iraq. Saddam led Arab opposition to the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel (1979).



[Saddam Hussein](#) and [al-Bakr](#), *de jure* president of Iraq alongside [Hafiz al-Assad](#) of Syria at an [Arab League summit](#) in Baghdad in November 1978

Iraq's relations with the Arab world have been extremely varied. Relations between Iraq and Egypt violently ruptured in 1977, when the two nations broke relations with each other following Iraq's criticism of Egyptian President [Anwar Sadat](#)'s peace initiatives with [Israel](#). In 1978, Baghdad hosted an [Arab League summit](#) that condemned and ostracized Egypt for accepting the [Camp David Accords](#). Egypt's strong material and diplomatic support for Iraq in the war with Iran led to warmer relations and numerous contacts between senior officials, despite the continued absence of ambassadorial-level representation. Since 1983, Iraq has repeatedly called for restoration of Egypt's "natural role" among Arab countries. Saddam initiated Iraq's nuclear enrichment project in the 1980s, with French assistance. The first Iraqi nuclear reactor was named by the French "[Osirak](#)". Osirak was destroyed on 7 June 1981 by an Israeli air strike ([Operation Opera](#)). Saddam Hussein was widely known for his commitment to the Palestinian cause and his anti-Israel stance. In May 2000, Saddam and his representatives had secret meetings with the Israeli government. He offered that Iraq will end its anti-Israel foreign policy, if Israel will resolve Palestinian refugees issue in Lebanon. In 2001, Saddam said on Iraqi television:

"Palestine is Arab and must be liberated [from the river to the sea](#) and all the [Zionists](#) who emigrated to the land of Palestine must leave."

Nearly from its founding as a modern state in 1920, Iraq has had to deal with Kurdish separatists in the northern part of the country. Saddam did negotiate an agreement in 1970 with separatist Kurdish leaders, giving them autonomy, but the agreement broke down. The result was brutal fighting between the government and Kurdish groups and Iraqi bombing of Kurdish villages in Iran, which caused Iraqi relations with Iran to deteriorate. After Saddam negotiated the 1975 treaty with Iran, the Shah withdrew support for the Kurds, who were defeated.

Iran–Iraq War: 1980–1988



In the [Iran–Iraq War \(1980–1988\)](#), Iraq claimed it had the right to hold sovereignty to the east bank of the [Shatt al-Arab](#) river held by Iran.

In early 1979, Iran's Shah [Mohammad Reza Pahlavi](#)'s [Pahlavi dynasty](#) were overthrown by the [Islamic Revolution](#), thus giving way to an Islamic republic led by Ayatollah [Ruhollah Khomeini](#). The influence of revolutionary Shi'ite Islam grew apace in the region, particularly in countries with large Shi'ite populations, especially Iraq. Saddam feared that radical Islamic ideas—hostile to his secular rule—were rapidly spreading inside his country among the majority Shi'ite population. Despite Saddam's fears of massive unrest, Iran's attempts to [export its Islamic Revolution](#) were largely unsuccessful in rallying support from Shi'ites in Iraq and the [Gulf states](#). Most Iraqi Shi'ites, who comprised the majority of the Iraqi Armed Forces, chose their own country over their Shi'ite Iranian coreligionists during the war that ensued. There had also been bitter enmity between Saddam and Khomeini since the 1970s. Khomeini, having been exiled from Iran in 1964, took up residence in Iraq, at the Shi'ite holy city of [Najaf](#). There he involved himself with Iraqi Shi'ites and developed a strong religious and political following against the Iranian Government, which Saddam tolerated. When Khomeini began to urge the Shi'ites there to overthrow Saddam and under pressure from the Shah, who had agreed to a rapprochement between Iraq and Iran in 1975, Saddam agreed to expel Khomeini in 1978 to France. Here, Khomeini gained media connections and collaborated with a much larger Iranian community, to his advantage. After Khomeini gained power, skirmishes between Iraq and revolutionary Iran occurred for ten months over the sovereignty of the disputed [Shatt al-Arab](#) waterway, which divides the two countries. During this period, Saddam publicly maintained that it was in Iraq's interest not to engage with Iran, and that it was in the interests of both nations to maintain peaceful relations.

[Iraq invaded Iran](#) on 22 September 1980, first [launching airstrikes on numerous targets in Iran](#), including the [Mehrabad Airport](#) of [Tehran](#), before occupying the oil-rich Iranian province of [Khuzestan](#), which also has a sizable [Arab minority](#).^[113] The invasion was initially successful, as Iraq captured more than 25,900 km² of Iranian territory by 5 December 1980. With the support of other [Arab states](#), the United States, and Europe, and heavily financed by the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, Saddam Hussein had become "the defender of the Arab world" against a revolutionary, fundamentalist and [Shia Islamist](#) Iran. The only exception was the Soviet Union, which initially refused to supply Iraq on the basis of neutrality in the conflict, although in his memoirs, [Mikhail Gorbachev](#) claimed that [Leonid Brezhnev](#) refused to aid Saddam over infuriation of Saddam's treatment of Iraqi communists. Consequently, many viewed Iraq as "an agent of the civilized world." The blatant disregard of international law and violations of international borders were ignored. Instead Iraq received economic and military support from its allies, who overlooked Saddam's use of chemical warfare against the Kurds and the Iranians, in addition to Iraq's efforts to develop nuclear weapons.



Saddam greeting [Carlos Cardoen](#)- a Chilean businessman who provided Iraq with weapons during the war in the 1980s

In the first days of the war, there was heavy ground fighting around strategic ports as Iraq launched an attack on Khuzestan. After making some initial gains, Iraq's troops began to suffer losses from [human wave attacks](#) by Iran. By 1982, Iraq was on the defensive and looking for ways to end the war. Middle East special envoy [Donald Rumsfeld](#) met Saddam Hussein on 19–20 December 1983. Iraq quickly found itself bogged down in one of the longest and most destructive [wars of attrition](#) of the 20th century. During the war, Iraq used [chemical weapons](#) against Iranian forces fighting on the southern front and Kurdish separatists who were attempting to open up a northern front in Iraq with the help of Iran. Iraqi Foreign Minister [Tariq Aziz](#) later acknowledged [Iraq's use of chemical weapons against Iran](#), but said that Iran had used them against Iraq first. These chemical weapons were developed by Iraq from materials and technology supplied primarily by [West German](#) companies as well as using dual-use technology imported following the [Reagan administration's](#) lifting of export restrictions. The [United States government](#) also supplied Iraq with "satellite photos showing Iranian deployments." This satellite imagery may have played a crucial role in blocking the [Iranian invasion of Iraq](#) in 1982.^[119] However, Saddam's government later blamed the Iraqi defeat in the [First Battle of al-Faw](#) in February 1986 on "misinformation from the U.S."

In a US bid to open full diplomatic relations with Iraq, the country was removed from the [US list of State Sponsors of Terrorism](#) in February 1982. Ostensibly, this was because of improvement in the regime's record, although former US Assistant Secretary of Defense Noel Koch later stated, "No one had any doubts about [the Iraqis'] continued involvement in [terrorism](#) ... The real reason was to help them succeed in the war against Iran." The [Soviet Union](#), France, and [China](#) together accounted for over 90% of the value of Iraq's arms imports between 1980 and 1988. While the United States supplied Iraq with arms, dual-use technology and economic aid, it was also involved in a covert and illegal arms deal, providing sanctioned Iran with weaponry. This political scandal became known as the [Iran–Contra affair](#). Saddam reached out to other Arab governments for cash and political support during the war, particularly after Iraq's oil industry severely suffered at the hands of the [Iranian navy](#) in the [Persian Gulf](#). Iraq successfully gained some military and financial aid, as well as diplomatic and moral support, from the Soviet Union, China, France, and the United States, which together feared the prospects of the expansion of revolutionary Iran's influence in the region.

The Iranians, demanding that the international community should force Iraq to pay war reparations to Iran, refused any suggestions for a cease-fire. Despite several [calls for a ceasefire](#) by the [United Nations Security Council](#), hostilities continued until 20 August 1988. The bloody eight-year war ended in a stalemate. [Encyclopædia Britannica](#) states: "Estimates of total casualties range from 1,000,000 to twice that number.^[113] The number killed on both sides was perhaps 500,000, with Iran suffering the greatest losses." Neither side had achieved what they had originally desired and the borders were left nearly unchanged. The southern, oil rich and prosperous Khuzestan and Basra area (the main focus of the war, and the primary source of their economies) were almost completely destroyed and were left at the pre-1979 border, while Iran managed to make some small gains on its borders in the Northern Kurdish area. Both economies, previously healthy and expanding, were left in ruins. Saddam borrowed tens of billions of dollars from other Arab states and a few billions from elsewhere during the 1980s to fight Iran, mainly to prevent the expansion of Shi'a radicalism. This backfired on Iraq and the Arab states, for Khomeini was widely perceived as a hero for managing to defend Iran and maintain the war with little foreign support against the heavily backed Iraq and only managed to boost Islamic radicalism not only within the Arab states, but within Iraq itself, creating new tensions between the Sunni Ba'ath Party and the majority Shi'a population. Faced with rebuilding Iraq's infrastructure and internal resistance, Saddam desperately re-sought cash, this time for postwar reconstruction.

[Anfal campaign: 1986–1989](#)

The [Anfal campaign](#) was a genocidal campaign that took place during the Iran–Iraq War against the [Kurdish people](#) (and many others) in Kurdish regions of Iraq led by the government of Saddam Hussein and headed by [Ali Hassan al-Majid](#). The campaign takes its name from [Qur'anic chapter 8](#) (*al- 'anfāl*), which was used as a [code name](#) by the former Iraqi [Ba'athist](#) administration for a series of attacks against the *peshmerga* rebels and the mostly Kurdish civilian population of rural Northern Iraq, conducted between 1986 and 1989 culminating in 1988. This campaign also targeted [Shabaks](#) and [Yazidis](#), [Assyrians](#), [Turkoman people](#) and many villages

belonging to these ethnic groups were also destroyed. Human Rights Watch estimates that between 50,000 and 100,000 people were killed. Some Kurdish sources put the number higher, estimating that 182,000 Kurds were killed.

On 16 March 1988, the Kurdish town of [Halabja](#) was attacked with a mix of [mustard gas](#) and [nerve agents](#) during the [Halabja massacre](#), killing between 3,200 and 5,000 people, and injuring 7,000 to 10,000 more, mostly civilians. The attack occurred in conjunction with the Anfal campaign designed to reassert central control of the mostly Kurdish population of areas of northern Iraq and defeat the Kurdish [peshmerga](#) rebel forces. Following the incident, The [U.S. State Department](#) took the official position that Iran was partly to blame for the Halabja massacre. A study by the [Defense Intelligence Agency](#) held Iran responsible for the attack. This assessment was subsequently used by the [Central Intelligence Agency](#) for much of the early 1990s. Despite this, few observers today doubt that it was Iraq that executed the Halabja massacre.

Tensions with Kuwait: 1988–1990

The end of the war with Iran served to deepen latent tensions between Iraq and its wealthy neighbor Kuwait. Saddam urged the Kuwaitis to waive the Iraqi debt accumulated in the war, some \$30 billion, but they refused. Saddam pushed oil-exporting countries to raise oil prices by cutting back production; Kuwait refused, then led the opposition in [OPEC](#) to the cuts that Saddam had requested. Kuwait was pumping large amounts of oil, and thus keeping prices low, when Iraq needed to sell high-priced oil from its wells to pay off its huge debt.

Saddam had consistently argued that Kuwait had historically been an integral part of Iraq, and had only come into being as a result of interference from the [British government](#); echoing a belief that Iraqi nationalists had supported for the past fifty years. This belief was one of the few articles of faith uniting the political scene in a nation rife with sharp social, ethnic, religious, and ideological divides. The extent of Kuwaiti oil reserves also intensified tensions in the region. The oil reserves of Kuwait (with a population of 2 million next to Iraq's 25) were roughly equal to those of Iraq. Taken together, Iraq and Kuwait sat on top of some 20 percent of the world's known oil reserves; [Saudi Arabia](#) held another 25 percent. Saddam still had an experienced and well-equipped army, which he used to influence regional affairs. He later ordered troops to the Iraq–Kuwait border.

As Iraq–Kuwait relations rapidly deteriorated, Saddam was receiving conflicting information about how the US would respond to the prospects of an invasion. For one, Washington had been taking measures to cultivate a constructive relationship with Iraq for roughly a decade. The [Reagan administration](#) gave Iraq roughly \$4 billion in agricultural credits to bolster it against Iran. Saddam's Iraq became "the third-largest recipient of US assistance."

Reacting to Western criticism in April 1990, Saddam threatened to destroy half of Israel with chemical weapons if it moved against Iraq. In May 1990 he criticized US support for Israel warning that "the US cannot maintain such a policy while professing friendship towards the Arabs." In July 1990 he threatened force against Kuwait and

the UAE saying "The policies of some Arab rulers are American ... They are inspired by America to undermine Arab interests and security." The US sent warplanes and combat ships to the Persian Gulf in response to these threats.



U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie calls upon Saddam for an emergency meeting.

The US ambassador to Iraq, [April Glaspie](#), met with Saddam in an emergency meeting on 25 July 1990, where the Iraqi leader attacked American policy with regards to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE):

"So what can it mean when America says it will now protect its friends? It can only mean prejudice against Iraq. This stance plus maneuvers and statements which have been made has encouraged the UAE and Kuwait to disregard Iraqi rights. If you use pressure, we will deploy pressure and force. We know that you can harm us although we do not threaten you. But we too can harm you. Everyone can cause harm according to their ability and their size. We cannot come all the way to you in the US, but individual Arabs may reach you. We do not place America among the enemies. We place it where we want our friends to be and we try to be friends. But repeated American statements last year made it apparent that America did not regard us as friends."

Glaspie replied:

"I know you need funds. We understand that and our opinion is that you should have the opportunity to rebuild your country. But we have no opinion on the Arab-Arab conflicts, like your border disagreement with Kuwait. ... Frankly, we can only see that you have deployed massive troops in the south. Normally that would not be any of our business. But when this happens in the context of what you said on your national day, then when we read the details in the two letters of the Foreign Minister, then when we see the Iraqi point of view that the measures taken by the UAE and Kuwait is, in the final analysis, parallel to military aggression against Iraq, then it would be reasonable for me to be concerned."

Saddam stated that he would attempt last-ditch negotiations with the Kuwaitis but Iraq "would not accept death." US officials attempted to maintain a conciliatory line with Iraq, indicating that while [George H. W. Bush](#) and [James Baker](#) did not want force used, they would not take any position on the Iraq-Kuwait boundary dispute and did not want to become involved. Later, Iraq and Kuwait met for a final negotiation session, which failed. Saddam then sent his

troops into Kuwait. As tensions between Washington and Saddam began to escalate, the Soviet Union, under Mikhail Gorbachev, strengthened its military relationship with the Iraqi leader, providing him military advisers, arms and aid.

Gulf War: 1990–1991

On 2 August 1990, Saddam invaded Kuwait, initially claiming assistance to "Kuwaiti revolutionaries", thus sparking an international crisis. On 4 August an Iraqi-backed "[Provisional Government of Free Kuwait](#)" was proclaimed, but a total lack of legitimacy and support for it led to an 8 August announcement of a "merger" of the two countries. On 28 August Kuwait formally became the [19th Governorate of Iraq](#). Just two years after the 1988 Iraq and Iran truce, "Saddam did what his Gulf patrons had earlier paid him to prevent." Having removed the threat of Iranian fundamentalism he "overran Kuwait and confronted his Gulf neighbors in the name of Arab nationalism and Islam."^[114] Saddam justified the [invasion of Kuwait](#) in 1990 by claiming that [Kuwait](#) had always been an integral part of Iraq and only became an independent nation due to the interference of the [British Empire](#).



Saddam in duty uniform

When later asked why he invaded Kuwait, Saddam first claimed that it was because Kuwait was rightfully Iraq's 19th [province](#) and then said "When I get something into my head I act. That's just the way I am." Saddam Hussein could pursue such military aggression with a "military machine paid for in large part by the tens of billions of dollars Kuwait and the Gulf states had poured into Iraq and the weapons and technology provided by the Soviet Union, Germany, and France." It was revealed during his 2003–2004 interrogation that in addition to economic disputes, an insulting exchange between the Kuwaiti [emir Al Sabah](#) and the Iraqi foreign minister – during which Saddam claimed that the emir stated his intention to turn "every Iraqi woman into a \$10 prostitute" by ruining Iraq financially – was a decisive factor in triggering the Iraqi invasion. Shortly before he invaded Kuwait, he shipped 100

new [Mercedes](#) 200 Series cars to top editors in Egypt and Jordan. Two days before the first attacks, Saddam reportedly offered Egypt's [Hosni Mubarak](#) 50 million dollars in cash, "ostensibly for grain."

[George H. W. Bush](#) responded cautiously for the first several days. On one hand, Kuwait, prior to this point, had been a virulent enemy of Israel and was the Persian Gulf monarchy that had the most friendly relations with the Soviets. On the other hand, Washington foreign policymakers, along with Middle East experts, military critics, and firms heavily invested in the region, were extremely concerned with stability in this region. The invasion immediately triggered fears that the world's [price of oil](#), and therefore control of the world economy, was at stake. Britain profited heavily from billions of dollars of Kuwaiti investments and bank deposits. Bush was perhaps swayed while meeting with British prime minister [Margaret Thatcher](#), who happened to be in the US at the time.



[Saddam welcomes Colonel Alaa Hussein Ali, Prime Minister of Kuwait Provisional Free Government for unification talks in Bagdad, 1990](#)

Cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union made possible the passage of resolutions in the United Nations Security Council giving Iraq a deadline to leave Kuwait and approving the use of force if Saddam did not comply with the timetable. The United States officials feared Iraqi retaliation against oil-rich Saudi Arabia, since the 1940s a close ally of Washington, for the Saudis' opposition to the invasion of Kuwait. Accordingly, the United States and a group of allies, including countries as diverse as Egypt, Syria and [Czechoslovakia](#), deployed a massive number of troops along the Saudi border with Kuwait and Iraq in order to encircle the Iraqi army, the largest in the Middle East. Saddam's officers looted Kuwait, stripping even the marble from its palaces to move it to Saddam's own palace.

During the period of negotiations and threats following the invasion, Saddam focused renewed attention on the [Palestinian](#) problem by promising to withdraw his forces from Kuwait if Israel would relinquish the occupied territories in the [West Bank](#), the [Golan Heights](#), and the [Gaza Strip](#). Saddam's proposal further split the Arab world, pitting US- and Western-supported Arab states against the Palestinians. The allies ultimately rejected any linkage between the Kuwait crisis and Palestinian issues.

Saddam ignored the Security Council deadline. Backed by the Security Council, a US-led coalition launched round-the-clock missile and aerial attacks on Iraq, beginning 16 January 1991. Israel, though [subjected to attack by Iraqi](#)

[missiles](#), refrained from retaliating in order not to provoke Arab states into leaving the coalition. A ground force consisting largely of US and British armored and infantry divisions ejected Saddam's army from Kuwait in February 1991 and occupied the southern portion of Iraq as far as the [Euphrates](#). On 6 March 1991, Bush announced "What is at stake is more than one small country, it is a big idea—a [new world order](#), where diverse nations are drawn together in common cause to achieve the universal aspirations of mankind: peace and security, freedom, and the rule of law." In the end, the Iraqi army proved unable to compete on the battlefield with the highly mobile coalition land forces and their overpowering air support. Some 175,000 Iraqis were taken prisoner and casualties were estimated at over 85,000. As part of the cease-fire agreement, Iraq agreed to scrap all poison gas and [germ weapons](#) and allow UN observers to inspect the sites. UN trade sanctions would remain in effect until Iraq complied with all terms. Saddam publicly claimed victory at the end of the war.

1990s



Saddam in 1996

Iraq's ethnic and religious divisions, together with the brutality of the conflict that this had engendered, laid the groundwork for postwar rebellions. In the aftermath of the fighting, social and ethnic unrest among Shi'ite Muslims, Kurds, and dissident military units threatened the stability of Saddam's government. Uprisings erupted in the Kurdish north and Shi'a southern and central parts of Iraq, but were ruthlessly repressed. [Uprisings in 1991](#) led to the death of 100,000–180,000 people, mostly civilians.

The US, which had urged Iraqis to rise up against Saddam, did nothing to assist the rebellions. The Iranians, despite the widespread Shi'ite rebellions, had no interest in provoking another war, while [Turkey](#) opposed any prospect of Kurdish independence, and the Saudis and other conservative Arab states feared an Iran-style Shi'ite revolution. Saddam, having survived the immediate crisis in the wake of defeat, was left firmly in control of Iraq, although the country never recovered either economically or militarily from the Gulf War.

Saddam routinely cited his survival as "proof" that Iraq had in fact won the war against the US. This message earned Saddam a great deal of popularity in

many sectors of the Arab world. John Esposito wrote, "Arabs and Muslims were pulled in two directions. That they rallied not so much to Saddam Hussein as to the bipolar nature of the confrontation (the West versus the Arab Muslim world) and the issues that Saddam proclaimed: Arab unity, self-sufficiency, and social justice." As a result, Saddam Hussein appealed to many people for the same reasons that attracted more and more followers to Islamic revivalism and also for the same reasons that fueled [anti-Western](#) feelings.

One US Muslim observer noted: "People forgot about Saddam's record and concentrated on America ... Saddam Hussein might be wrong, but it is not America who should correct him." A shift was, therefore, clearly visible among many Islamic movements in the post war period "from an initial Islamic ideological rejection of Saddam Hussein, the secular persecutor of Islamic movements, and his invasion of Kuwait to a more populist Arab nationalist, anti-imperialist support for Saddam (or more precisely those issues he represented or championed) and the condemnation of foreign intervention and occupation."

Some elements of [Sharia](#) law were re-introduced, and the phrase "[Allahu Akbar](#)" ("God is great"), in Saddam's handwriting, was added to the national flag. Saddam also commissioned the production of a "[Blood Qur'an](#)", written using 27 litres of his own blood, to thank God for saving him from various dangers and conspiracies.

The [United Nations](#)-placed [sanctions against Iraq](#) for invading Kuwait were not lifted, blocking Iraqi oil exports. During the late 1990s, the UN considered relaxing the sanctions imposed because of the hardships suffered by ordinary Iraqis. Studies dispute the number of people who died in south and central Iraq during the years of the sanctions. On 9 December 1996, Saddam's government accepted the [Oil-for-Food Programme](#) that the UN had first offered in 1992.

Relations between the US and Iraq remained tense following the Gulf War. The US launched a [missile attack](#) aimed at Iraq's intelligence headquarters in Baghdad 26 June 1993, citing evidence of repeated Iraqi violations of the "no fly zones" imposed after the Gulf War and for incursions into Kuwait. US officials continued to accuse Saddam of violating the terms of the Gulf War's cease fire, by developing [weapons of mass destruction](#) and other banned weaponry, and violating the UN-imposed sanctions. Also during the 1990s, President [Bill Clinton](#) maintained sanctions and ordered air strikes in the "Iraqi no-fly zones" ([Operation Desert Fox](#)), in the hope that Saddam would be overthrown by political enemies inside Iraq. Western charges of Iraqi resistance to UN access to suspected weapons were the pretext for crises between 1997 and 1998, culminating in intensive US and British missile strikes on Iraq, 16–19 December 1998. After two years of intermittent activity, US and British warplanes [struck](#) harder at sites near Baghdad in February 2001. Former CIA case officer [Robert Baer](#) reports that he "tried to assassinate"

Saddam in 1995, amid "a decade-long effort to encourage a military coup in Iraq."

Saddam continued involvement in politics abroad. Video tapes retrieved after show his intelligence chiefs meeting with Arab journalists, including a meeting with the former managing director of Al-Jazeera, Mohammed Jassem al-Ali, in 2000. In the video Saddam's son Uday advised al-Ali about hires in Al-Jazeera: "During your last visit here along with your colleagues we talked about a number of issues, and it does appear that you indeed were listening to what I was saying since changes took place and new faces came on board such as that lad, Mansour." He was later sacked by Al-Jazeera.

Second Intifada

Following the outbreak of the second intifada in Palestinian territories, Saddam established [Jerusalem Army](#), a volunteer force in solidarity with Palestinians. It was under the supervision of his younger son Qusay. On eve of [Christmas in 2000](#), Saddam wrote a public letter, calling for Christians and Muslims, to lead jihad against Zionist movement. The [2002 Arab League summit](#) was held in [Beirut, Lebanon](#). [Arab Peace Initiative](#) was proposed in the summit, solving matter between Israelis and Palestinians. Saddam's ally [Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri](#) was also present at the summit, representing Iraq. The Iraqi representative did not oppose the plan. In the summit, Arab countries also rejected any attack on Iraq.

Throughout his final years, Saddam provided financial assistance from Iraq's oil revenue, to the families of the Palestinian victims and militants. Around 20% of Iraq's oil revenue, by the oil-for-food programme was for donating Palestinians. Contrary to the claims of the United States and the Israelis, not all the money was sent to support suicide bombing. Saddam donated €1 billion to Palestinians, supporting them in the uprisings. He also stopped supplying oil to the western countries, to force Israel, abandoning its offensive in the Palestinian territories. [Iran](#) and [Libya](#) also supported the move.

Final years: 2000–2003

In August 2000, Venezuelan president [Hugo Chávez](#) made a visit to Iraq and met Saddam. He was first leader of a foreign state to visit the country, since the [Gulf War](#). His meeting with Saddam was criticized by the [United States](#), who is a major importer of Venezuela's oil. During his tour to invite the leaders of the 10 OPEC member states to a summit the following month, Chávez expressed that he had engaged in "fruitful" discussions with Saddam regarding the future role of the [Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries](#) and the defence of reasonable oil prices. Chávez emphasized the significance of [bilateral cooperation between their nations](#) in these matters. The discussions between Chávez and Saddam took place in the past, during a period when both leaders were active. Chávez sought to strengthen ties and foster collaboration among OPEC member states, focusing on the organization's future trajectory and the importance of maintaining oil prices at

a reasonable level. The aim was to ensure stability and fairness in the global oil market.



Saddam addresses state television, in January 2001.

In October 2000, Saddam was also visited by then Libyan leader [Muammar Gaddafi](#)'s daughter [Ayesha Gaddafi](#). Saddam later decided to use [Euro](#), instead of [Dollars](#) for Iraqi oil. Almost all of Iraq's oil exports under the United Nations oil-for-food program were paid in euros since 2001. Approximately 26 billion euros (£17.4bn) was paid for 3.3 billion barrels of oil into an escrow account in New York. Internally Saddam continued authoritarian way of governance and suppressed political opponents. Between October and November 2000 Saddam led volunteer's campaign in solidarity with the Palestinians during the [second intifada](#). Diplomatic isolation of Iraq with Arab states were disappearing gradually. On 25 April 2001, the British government started investigation on alleged war crimes done by Saddam. On 28 April 2001, Saddam celebrated his birthday, in form of a mega event.

Following month Saddam was chosen as party general secretary at the Baath congress in Baghdad, with every delegate in the hall rising to their feet. However, the Baath's 18-member executive, known as the Iraqi Regional Command, was selected through a secret ballot. The state television reported that 24 candidates stood, and eight new members were elected. Among them was Qusay, Saddam's younger son. Despite holding no high position in the Baath or government, Uday had long been considered the likely successor to his father. This situation resembled [Syria](#), where [Bashar al-Assad](#) succeeded his father as president of the country the 2000, despite not previously holding a high position in the party or government. Saddam commenced the Baghdad party meeting with a speech advising the more than 300 delegates on how to vote. After the speech, the elections took place. Another surprise was the election of [Huda Saleh Mehdi Ammash](#), the first woman to win a seat on the party executive. Saddam had recently encouraged women to play a greater role in Iraq. The deputy secretary general of the command, Izzat Ibrahim, was re-elected, and according to the constitution, he would become the interim president in the event of Saddam's sudden death. Among those who lost their executive seats was the deputy prime minister, [Mohammed Hamza al-Zubaidi](#).

Russian president [Vladimir Putin](#) sent a message to Saddam, promoting diplomatic relations between Iraq and Russia. Saddam also invited Kurds to the negotiation table. A foreign [coup d'état](#) was planned to overthrow Saddam, which was later dropped down after three months of [September 11 attacks](#). In 2002, Austrian prosecutors investigated Saddam government's transactions with [Fritz Edlinger](#) that possibly violated Austrian [money laundering](#) and embargo regulations. Fritz Edlinger, president of the *General Secretary of the Society for Austro-Arab relations* (GÖAB) and a former member of [Socialist International](#)'s Middle East Committee, was an outspoken supporter of Saddam Hussein. In 2005, an Austrian journalist revealed that Fritz Edlinger's GÖAB had received \$100,000 from an Iraqi front company as well as donations from Austrian companies soliciting business in Iraq. In 2002, a resolution sponsored by the [European Union](#) was adopted by the Commission for Human Rights, which stated that there had been no improvement in the human rights crisis in Iraq. The statement condemned Saddam's government for its "systematic, widespread and extremely grave violations of human rights and [international humanitarian law](#). The resolution demanded that Iraq immediately put an end to its "summary and arbitrary executions ... [the use of rape as a political tool](#) and all enforced and involuntary disappearances."

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2003 invasion and Iraq War



Statue of Saddam [being toppled in Firdos Square](#) after the invasion

Many members of the international community, especially the US, continued to view Saddam as a bellicose tyrant who was a threat to the stability of the region. In his January 2002 [state of the union address](#) to Congress, President [George W. Bush](#) spoke of an "[axis of evil](#)" consisting of Iran, North Korea, and Iraq. Moreover, Bush announced that he would possibly take action to topple the Iraqi government, because of the threat of its weapons of mass destruction. Bush stated that "The Iraqi regime has plotted to develop [anthrax](#), and [nerve gas](#), and [nuclear weapons](#) for over a decade ... Iraq continues to flaunt its hostility toward America and to support terror."

After the passing of [UNSC Resolution 1441](#), which demanded that Iraq give "immediate, unconditional and active cooperation" with UN and IAEA inspections, Saddam allowed U.N. weapons inspectors led by [Hans Blix](#) to return to Iraq. During the renewed inspections beginning in November 2002, Blix found no stockpiles of WMD and noted the "proactive" but not always "immediate" Iraqi cooperation as called for by Resolution 1441.

With war still looming on 24 February 2003, Saddam Hussein took part in [an interview](#) with [CBS News](#) reporter [Dan Rather](#). Talking for more than three hours, he denied possessing any weapons of mass destruction, or any other weapons prohibited by UN guidelines. He also expressed a wish to have a live televised debate with [George W. Bush](#), which was declined.^{[192][147]} It was his first interview with a US reporter in over a decade. CBS aired the taped interview later that week. Saddam Hussein later told an FBI interviewer that he once left open the possibility that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction in order to appear strong against Iran.

The [United States-led coalition forces](#) launched invasion of Iraq on 20 March 2003. The Iraqi government and military collapsed within three weeks of the beginning of the invasion. By the beginning of April, the coalition forces occupied much of Iraq. The resistance of the much-weakened Iraqi Armed Forces either crumbled or shifted to [guerrilla](#) tactics, and it appeared that Saddam had lost control of Iraq. He was last seen in a video which purported to show him in the Baghdad suburbs surrounded by supporters. In July 2003, his sons [Uday](#) and [Qusay](#) and 14-year-old grandson Mustafa were killed [in a three-hour gunfight with US forces](#) in [Mosul](#). Upon their deaths, he commemorated them as "martyrs" on radio. When Baghdad fell to US-led forces on 9 April, marked symbolically by the [toppling of his statue](#), Saddam was nowhere to be found and his government was completely overthrown.

Capture and interrogation



Saddam shortly after being captured



Saddam Hussein's fingerprints, obtained
by the National Security Archive

In April 2003, Saddam's whereabouts remained in question during the weeks following the [fall of Baghdad](#) and the conclusion of the major fighting of the war. Various sightings of Saddam were reported in the weeks following the war, but none were authenticated. At various times Saddam released audio tapes promoting popular resistance to his ousting. Saddam was placed at the top of the [US list of most-wanted Iraqis](#), which included officials of his government and the party members.

On 13 December 2003, in [Operation Red Dawn](#), Saddam was captured by American forces after being found hiding in a hole in the ground near a farmhouse in [ad-Dawr](#), near Tikrit. Following his capture, Saddam was transported to a US base near Tikrit, and later taken to the American base near Baghdad Airport. Documents obtained and released by the National Security Archive detail FBI interviews and conversations with Saddam while he was in US custody. On 14 December, US administrator in Iraq [Paul Bremer](#) confirmed that Saddam had indeed been captured at a farmhouse in ad-Dawr near Tikrit. Bremer presented video footage of Saddam in custody. Saddam was shown with a full beard and hair longer than his familiar appearance. He was described by US officials as being in good health. Bremer reported plans to put Saddam on trial, but claimed that the details of such a trial had not yet been determined. Iraqis and Americans who spoke with Saddam after his capture generally reported that he remained self-assured, describing himself as a "firm, but just leader."

British tabloid newspaper [The Sun](#) posted a picture of Saddam wearing white briefs on the front cover of a newspaper. Other photographs inside the paper show Saddam washing his trousers, shuffling, and sleeping. The US government stated that it considered the release of the pictures a violation of the [Geneva Convention](#) and that it would investigate the

photographs.^{[202][203]} During this period Saddam was interrogated by FBI agent George Piro.

The guards at the Baghdad detention facility called their prisoner "Vic", which stands for "Very Important Criminal" and let him plant a small garden near his cell. The nickname and the garden are among the details about the former Iraqi leader that emerged during a March 2008 tour of the Baghdad prison and cell where Saddam slept, bathed, kept a journal, and wrote poetry in the final days before his execution; he was concerned to ensure his legacy and how the history would be told. The tour was conducted by US Marine Maj. Gen. Doug Stone, overseer of detention operations for the US military in Iraq at the time. During his imprisonment he exercised and was allowed to have his personal garden; he also smoked his cigars and wrote his diary in the courtyard of his cell.^[205]

Trial



Saddam speaks in court.

On 30 June 2004, Saddam Hussein, held in custody by US forces at the US base "Camp Cropper", along with 11 other senior Ba'athist leaders, was handed over to the interim Iraqi government to stand trial for crimes against humanity and other offences.

A few weeks later, he was charged by the Iraqi Special Tribunal with crimes committed against residents of Dujail in 1982, following a failed assassination attempt against him. Specific charges included the murder of 148 people, torture of women and children and the illegal arrest of 399 others. Among the many challenges of the trial were:

- Saddam and his lawyers contesting the court's authority and maintaining that he was still the President of Iraq.
- The assassinations and attempted assassinations of several of Saddam's lawyers.
- The replacement of the chief presiding judge midway through the trial.

On 5 November 2006, Saddam was found guilty of crimes against humanity and [sentenced to death](#) by hanging. Saddam's half-brother, [Barzan Ibrahim](#), and [Awad Hamed al-Bandar](#), head of Iraq's Revolutionary Court in 1982, were convicted of similar charges. The verdict and sentencing were both appealed, but subsequently affirmed by Iraq's Supreme Court of Appeals.

Execution

Saddam was [executed](#) by [hanging](#) on the first day of [Eid ul-Adha](#), 30 December 2006, despite his wish to be executed by [firing squad](#) (which he argued was the lawful military capital punishment, citing his military position as the commander-in-chief of the Iraqi military). The execution was carried out at [Camp Justice](#), an Iraqi army base in [Kadhimiya](#), a neighborhood of northeast Baghdad.

Saudi Arabia condemned Iraqi authorities for carrying out the execution on a holy day. A presenter from the Al-Ikhbariya television station officially stated: "There is a feeling of surprise and disapproval that the verdict has been applied during the holy months and the first days of Eid al-Adha. Leaders of Islamic countries should show respect for this blessed occasion ... not demean it."

Video of the execution was recorded on a mobile phone and his captors could be heard insulting Saddam. The video was leaked to electronic media and posted on the Internet within hours, becoming the subject of global controversy. It was later claimed by the head guard at the tomb where his remains lay that Saddam's body had been stabbed six times after the execution. Saddam's demeanor while being led to the gallows has been discussed by two witnesses, Iraqi Judge Munir Haddad and Iraqi national security adviser Mowaffak al-Rubaie. The accounts of the two witnesses are contradictory as Haddad describes Saddam as being strong in his final moments whereas al-Rubaie says Saddam was clearly afraid, but the common view is not of the latter.

Saddam's last words during the execution, "May God's blessings be upon Muhammad and his household. And may God hasten their appearance and curse their enemies." Then one of the crowd repeatedly said the name of the Iraqi Shiite cleric, [Mogtada Al-Sadr](#). Saddam laughed and later said, "Do you consider this manhood?" The crowd shouted, "go to Hell." Saddam replied, "To the hell that is Iraq!?" Again, one of the crowd asked those who shouted to keep quiet for God. Saddam Hussein started recitation of final Muslim prayers, "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah." One of the crowds shouted, "The tyrant [dictator] has collapsed!" Saddam said, "May God's blessings be upon Muhammad and his household (family)". He recited the shahada one and a half times, as while he was about to say 'Muhammad' on the second [shahada](#), the trapdoor opened, cutting him off mid-sentence. The rope broke his neck, killing him instantly.

Not long before the execution, Saddam's lawyers released his last letter.

A second unofficial video, apparently showing Saddam's body on a trolley, emerged several days later. It sparked speculation that the execution was carried out incorrectly as Saddam Hussein had a gaping hole in his neck.

Saddam was buried at his birthplace of Al-Awja in Tikrit, Iraq, on 31 December 2006. He was buried 3 km (2 mi) from his sons Uday and Qusay Hussein. His tomb was reported to have been destroyed in March 2015. Before it was destroyed, a Sunni tribal group reportedly removed his body to a secret location, fearful of what might happen.

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[Kindly visit these Web Links for MORE Info/Details:](#)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddamism>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ba%27athism>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran%E2%80%93Iraq_War

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/the-complex-legacy-of-saddam-hussein>

<https://www.pbs.org/tpt/dictators-playbook/episodes/saddam-hussein/>

<https://www.britannica.com/summary/Saddam-Hussein>

<https://euaa.europa.eu/country-guidance-iraq-2021/introduction>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_rights_in_Ba%27athist_Iraq

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1975_Algers_Agreement

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Remembering_Saddam

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_of_Saddam_Hussein

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_graves_in_Iraq

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_relations_of_Iraq

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_support_for_Iraq_during_the_Iran%E2%80%93Iraq_War

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anfal_campaign

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War

IRAN-IRAQ WAR

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iran%E2%80%93Iraq_War

Iran–Iraq War

Part of the [Cold War](#), [aftermath](#) of the [Iranian Revolution](#), [Iraqi–Kurdish conflict](#), and [Iran–Saudi Arabia proxy conflict](#)



Top-left to bottom-right:

- An Iranian [child soldier](#) on the frontlines
- An Iranian soldier in a trench wearing a gas mask to guard against [Iraqi chemical attacks](#)
- The [USS Stark](#) listing to port after [being struck](#) by an Iraqi [Exocet](#) missile
- Burned-out vehicles in the aftermath of [Operation Mersad](#)
- Iraqi prisoners of war after the [recapture of Khorramshahr](#) by Iranian forces
- The [152 mm gun-howitzer D-20](#) being used by the Iranian Army

Date [22 September 1980](#) – 20 August 1988
(7 years, 10 months, 4 weeks and 1 day)

Location

- [Iran](#)
- [Iraq](#)

Result Inconclusive

Territorial changes [Status quo ante bellum](#)

Belligerents

 Iran	 Iraq
 KDP	 DRFLA ^{[8][9]}
 PUK	 MEK
 ISCI	 NCRI
 Islamic Dawa Party	 PKDI ^[10]
 Hezbollah	Salvation Force
Shia volunteers	Arab volunteers
Commanders and leaders	
Main Iranian leaders:	Main Iraqi leaders:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Ruhollah Khomeini  Akbar Rafsanjani  Ali Khamenei  Mir-Hossein Mousavi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Saddam Hussein  Adnan Khayr Allah  Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri  Tariq Aziz
Units involved	
See order of battle	See order of battle
Strength	
Start of war: 110,000–215,000 soldiers	Start of war: 200,000–210,000 soldiers
show	show
More:	More:
Casualties and losses	
Military dead: 200,000–600,000	Military dead: 105,000–500,000
show	show
More:	More:
Civilian dead: 100,000+	
Total dead: 450,000 ¹ –500,000	

The **Iran–Iraq War**, also known as the **First Gulf War**, was an armed conflict between [Iran](#) and [Iraq](#) that lasted from September 1980 to August 1988. Active hostilities began with the [Iraqi invasion of Iran](#) and lasted for nearly eight years, until the acceptance of [United Nations Security Council Resolution 598](#) by both sides. Iraq's primary rationale for the attack against Iran cited the need to prevent [Ruhollah Khomeini](#)—who had spearheaded the [Iranian Revolution](#) in 1979—from [exporting the new Iranian ideology](#) to Iraq. There were also fears among the Iraqi leadership of [Saddam Hussein](#) that Iran, a theocratic state with a population predominantly composed of [Shia Muslims](#), would exploit [sectarian tensions in Iraq](#) by rallying Iraq's Shia majority against the [Ba'athist government](#), which was officially secular and dominated by [Sunni Muslims](#). Iraq also wished to replace Iran as the power player in the [Persian Gulf](#), which was not seen as an achievable objective prior to the Islamic Revolution because of [Pahlavi Iran's](#) economic and military superiority as well as its close relationships with the [United States](#) and [Israel](#).

The Iran–Iraq War followed a long-running history of [territorial border disputes between the two states](#), as a result of which Iraq planned to retake the eastern bank of the [Shatt al-Arab](#) that it had ceded to Iran in the [1975 Algiers Agreement](#). Iraqi support for [Arab separatists in Iran](#) increased following the outbreak of hostilities; Saddam disputedly [may have wished to annex](#) Iran's Arab-majority [Khuzestan province](#).

While the Iraqi leadership had hoped to take advantage of [Iran's post-revolutionary chaos](#) and expected a decisive victory in the face of a severely weakened Iran, the Iraqi military only made progress for three months, and by December 1980, the Iraqi invasion had stalled. The Iranian military began to gain momentum against the Iraqis and regained all lost territory by June 1982. After pushing Iraqi forces back to the pre-war border lines, Iran rejected [United Nations Security Council Resolution 514](#) and launched an invasion of Iraq. The subsequent Iranian offensive within Iraqi territory lasted for five years, with Iraq taking back the initiative in mid-1988 and subsequently launching a series of major counter-offensives that ultimately led to the conclusion of the war in a stalemate.

The eight years of war-exhaustion, economic devastation, decreased morale, military stalemate, inaction by the international community towards the [use of weapons of mass destruction by Iraqi forces on Iranian soldiers and civilians](#), as well as increasing [Iran–United States military tensions](#) all culminated in Iran's acceptance of a ceasefire brokered by the [United Nations Security Council](#). In total, around 500,000 people were killed during the Iran–Iraq War, with Iran bearing the larger share of the casualties, excluding the tens of thousands of civilians killed in the concurrent [Anfal campaign](#) that targeted [Iraqi Kurdistan](#). The end of the conflict resulted in neither reparations nor border changes, and the combined financial losses suffered by both combatants is believed to have exceeded [US\\$1 trillion](#). There were a number of proxy forces operating for both countries: Iraq and the pro-Iraqi Arab separatist militias in Iran were most notably supported by the [National Council of Resistance of Iran](#); whereas Iran re-established an alliance with the [Iraqi Kurds](#), being primarily supported by the [Kurdistan Democratic Party](#) and the [Patriotic Union of Kurdistan](#). During the conflict, Iraq received an abundance of financial, political, and logistical aid from

a [cult of personality](#) revolving around him. However, the applicability of these labels has been contested.

Etymology

The term "Saddamism" (Saddamiyyah) or "the new Arab era" was coined by the [Iraqi media](#), embodying Saddam Hussein's special leadership qualities and the strong connections between him and the people.

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Remembering Saddam

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Remembering_Saddam

*Remembering Saddam is a [documentary](#)
by [Don North](#), a television news producer.*

The film follows the story of nine [Iraqi](#) businessmen who were arrested in 1995 by [Saddam Hussein](#)'s regime which was notorious for [human rights abuses](#). They were charged with dealing in foreign currency and imprisoned in [Abu Ghraib prison](#). After a short trial with no defense representation, they were sentenced to [amputation](#) of their right hands. The amputation was [videotaped](#) and used by [Saddam Hussein](#) as a deterrent to other would-be criminals. An "X of shame" was also carved into the foreheads of each man by the surgeons.

After the [2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq](#), North tracked down the nine men; seven of them (one was deceased) agreed to tell their stories. The documentary follows their story as organizations are lined up to donate surgical services, transportation and prosthetic limbs. Transportation was provided by [Continental Airlines](#). Dr Agris and Dr Kestler of [Houston](#) donated their time. Medical facilities were provided by Methodist Hospital in Houston. The prosthetic hands which normally cost

\$50,000 each were donated by Otto Bock, a German-American company. The gruesome footage of their amputations performed by doctors in the employ of Saddam Hussein is presented in increments as the documentary unfolds. The "Xs of shame" on every man's forehead were also removed. As of May 2004, *Remembering Saddam* is not scheduled for broadcast because North has yet to find a network willing to broadcast it.

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Trial of Saddam Hussein

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_of_Saddam_Hussein

Trial of Saddam Hussein



Saddam Hussein sitting before an Iraqi judge at a courthouse in Baghdad (1 July 2004)

Court [Iraqi Special Tribunal](#) (IST)

Decided 19 October 2005 – 21 December 2006

Verdict Saddam Hussein found guilty of crimes against humanity and subsequently sentenced to death; [executed](#) on 30 December 2006

The **trial of Saddam Hussein** was the [trial](#) of the deposed [President of Iraq Saddam Hussein](#) by the [Iraqi Interim Government](#) for [crimes against humanity](#) during his time in office.

The [Coalition Provisional Authority](#) voted to create the [Iraqi Special Tribunal](#) (IST), consisting of five Iraqi judges, on 9 December 2003, to try Saddam and his aides for charges of [war crimes](#), [crimes against humanity](#), and [genocide](#) dating back to the early 1980s.

Saddam [was captured by U.S. forces](#) on 13 December 2003. He remained in custody by U.S. forces at [Camp Cropper](#) in [Baghdad](#), along with eleven senior [Ba'athist](#) officials. Particular attention was paid during the trial to activities in violent campaigns against the [Kurds](#) in the north during the [Iran–Iraq War](#), against the [Shiites](#) in the south in 1991 and 1999 to put down [revolts](#), and in [Dujail](#) after a failed assassination attempt against Saddam on 8 July 1982, during the Iran–Iraq War. Saddam asserted in his defense that he had been unlawfully overthrown, and was still the president of Iraq.

The first trial began before the Iraqi Special Tribunal on 19 October 2005. At this trial Saddam and seven other defendants were tried for crimes against humanity with regard to events that took place after a failed assassination attempt in Dujail in 1982 by members of the [Islamic Dawa Party](#) (see also [human rights abuses in Iraq under Saddam Hussein](#)). A second and separate trial began on 21 August 2006, trying Saddam and six co-defendants for genocide during the [Anfal](#) military campaign against the Kurds in northern Iraq.

On 5 November 2006, Saddam was sentenced to death by [hanging](#). On 26 December, Saddam's appeal was rejected and the death sentence upheld. No further appeals were taken and Saddam was ordered executed within 30 days of that date. The date and place of the execution were secret until the sentence was carried out. [Saddam was executed](#) by hanging on 30 December 2006. With his death, all other charges were dropped.

Critics viewed the trial as a [show trial](#) that did not meet international standards on the [right to a fair trial](#). [Amnesty International](#) stated that the trial was "unfair," and [Human Rights Watch](#) judged that Saddam's execution "follows a flawed trial and marks a significant step away from the [rule of law](#) in Iraq." Several months before the trial took place, [Salem Chalabi](#), the former head of the Iraq Special Tribunal (which was established to try Hussein), accused interim Iraqi Prime Minister [Iyad Allawi](#) of pushing for a hasty show trial and execution, stating: "Show trials followed by speedy executions may help the interim government politically in the short term but will be counterproductive for the development of democracy and the rule of law in Iraq in the long term."

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Mass graves in Iraq

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_graves_in_Iraq



Human remains found in at a mass grave site in
Iraqi Kurdistan, July 15, 2005

Mass graves in Iraq are characterized as unmarked sites containing at least six bodies. Some can be identified by mounds of earth piled above the ground or as deep pits that appear to have been filled. Some older graves are more difficult to identify, having been covered by vegetation and debris over time. Sites have been discovered in all regions of the country and contain members of every major religious and ethnic group in Iraq as well as foreign nationals, including Kuwaitis and Saudis.

Background

Several entities and groups have deployed mass graves to cover up the [Extrajudicial killing](#) of civilians, enemy combatants, and rival factions in various civil conflicts. Under the rule of [Saddam Hussein](#), mass graves were used to bury Iranian soldiers who were killed on Iraqi territory. It was also used during the same time period on Kurds in the north of Iraq during the [Anfal Campaign](#). It was then widely used to bury civilians, protesters, defecators, and armed resistance groups that participated in the [1991 Iraqi uprisings](#).

Mass graves continued to be used following the fall of the regime in 2003. They were used by various factions that committed mass murder during the [Iraqi Civil War](#). They were then used by [ISIS](#) as they massacred civilians during the time where they controlled Iraqi territory. It is estimated that 200 mass graves are in the city of [Mosul](#) alone due to the group's actions.

List of Mass graves unearthed in Iraq

Following the fall of the Baath regime, efforts were made by both Iraqi authorities and international organizations to uncover mass graves in Iraq. Several US Senate committee investigations have been held to examine this topic.

List of Mass graves in Iraq				
Remains Found	Location	Year found	Timeframe which grave was dug	Notes
113	Samawah	2005	1980-1988	Victims were kurds most of whom were women, children and teenagers
22	Karbala	2008	2007	Victims were Shepherds who were reported missing in 2007
492	Al Diwaniyah	2011	1988	Victims were kurds, likely part of the Anfal campaign
800	Anbar	2011	1991	"Through the remains of clothes and other things, we believe they were from different sectors of Iraqi society. Some trenches included women and children, others included soldiers with military uniforms or tracksuits," Possibly from the failed uprising in 1991
3,115	Al-Mahawil	2003	1991	A collection of three mass graves in the southern part of Iraq. This happened during the 1991 uprising where most of the victims were likely Shia'a Muslims.
10	Al-Mahawil	2019	2014	The remains of ten people who were abducted and murdered in 2015. The identity of the victims has never been published.
12	Fallujah	2007	2006	Most of the victims have no IDs, but officials have said they were likely abducted and murdered by insurgents, one was a paramedic.

Foreign relations of Iraq

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_relations_of_Iraq

Since 1980, the **foreign relations of Iraq** have been influenced by a number of controversial decisions by the Saddam Hussein administration. Hussein had good relations with the Soviet Union and a number of western countries such as France and Germany, who provided him with advanced weapons systems. He also developed a tenuous relation with the United States, who supported him during the Iran-Iraq War. However, the Invasion of Kuwait that triggered the Gulf War brutally changed Iraq's relations with the Arab World and the West. Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and others were among the countries that supported Kuwait in the UN coalition. After the Hussein administration was toppled by the 2003 U.S. invasion, the governments that succeeded it have now tried to establish relations with various nations.

For MORE, please visit the **CITED** Web Link

Gulf War

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War

Gulf War



From top to bottom, left to right:

- U.S. Air Force [F-15Es](#), [F-16s](#), and an [F-15C](#) flying over [burning Kuwaiti oil wells](#)
- a U.S. Army [M1 Abrams](#) laying down a smokescreen
 - British troops from the [Staffordshire Regiment](#) practicing casualty evacuation
- wrecked and abandoned vehicles on the [Highway of Death](#)
 - camera view from a [Lockheed AC-130](#)

Date [2 August 1990](#) – [17 January 1991](#)
(*Operation Desert Shield*)
[17 January](#) – [28 February 1991](#)
(*Operation Desert Storm*)
(6 months, 3 weeks and 5 days)

Location

- [Iraq](#)
- [Kuwait](#)
- [Saudi Arabia](#)
- [Persian Gulf](#)

<p>Result</p> <p>Territorial changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Israel Coalition victory • State of Kuwait resumes self-governance over all Kuwaiti sovereign territory • Establishment of a demilitarized zone and construction of a separation barrier along the Iraq–Kuwait border
<p>show</p> <p>Coalition:</p>	
<div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>United States</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>United Kingdom</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>France</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Saudi Arabia</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Egypt</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Kuwait</div> </div> </div> <div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>George H. W. Bush</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Dick Cheney</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Colin Powell</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Norman Schwarzkopf</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Chuck Horner</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>John J. Yeosock</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Walter E. Boomer</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Stanley R. Arthur</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Robert B. Johnston</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Margaret Thatcher</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>John Major</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Peter de la Billière</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>François Mitterrand</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Michel Roquejeoffre</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>King Fahd</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Prince Abdullah</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Prince Sultan</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Saleh Al-Muhaya</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Khalid bin Sultan^{[2][3]}</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Prince Nayef</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Prince Badr</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Prince Turki Al Faisal</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Hosni Mubarak</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Youssef Sabri Abu Taleb</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Salah Halabi</div> </div> </div> </div> </div>	
<div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>Iraq</div> </div> </div> </div>	
<div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>Saddam Hussein</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Tariq Aziz</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Ali Hassan al-Majid</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Iyad Futayyih</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Hussein Kamel al-Majid</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Abid Hamid Mahmud</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Muzahim Saab Hassan</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>Salah Aboud Mahmoud</div> </div> </div> </div>	

-  [Muhammad Tantawi](#)

Strength

Over 950,000 soldiers 3,113 tanks 1,800 aircraft 2,200 artillery pieces	1,000,000+ soldiers (~600,000 in Kuwait) 5,500 tanks 700+ aircraft 3,000 artillery systems ^[4]
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Casualties and losses

Total: 13,488	Total: 175,000–300,000+
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Coalition: 292 killed (147 killed by enemy action, 145 non-hostile deaths) 776 wounded (467 wounded in action) 31 tanks destroyed/disabled 28 Bradley IFVs destroyed/damaged 1 M113 APC destroyed 2 British Warrior APCs destroyed 1 artillery piece destroyed 75 aircraft destroyed Kuwait: 420 killed 12,000 captured ≈200 tanks destroyed/captured 850+ other armored vehicles destroyed/captured 57 aircraft lost 8 aircraft captured (Mirage F1s) 17 ships sunk, 6 captured	Iraqi: 20,000–50,000 killed 75,000+ wounded 80,000–175,000 captured 3,300 tanks destroyed 2,100 APCs destroyed 2,200 artillery pieces destroyed 110 aircraft destroyed 137 aircraft flown to Iran to escape destruction 19 ships sunk, 6 damaged
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Kuwaiti civilian losses:

Over 1,000 killed
600 [missing people](#)

Iraqi civilian losses:

3,664 killed directly

Total Iraqi losses (including [1991 Iraqi uprisings](#)):

142,500–206,000 deaths (According to [Medact](#))

Other civilian losses:

75 killed in [Israel](#) and Saudi Arabia, 309 injured



SADDAM HUSSEIN AWARDS MEDALS TO HIGH-RANKING MEMBERS

<https://reuters.screenocean.com/record/500822>

IRAQI LEADER SADDAM HUSSEIN AWARDS MEDALS TO HIGH-RANKING MEMBERS OF THE IRAQI COMMAND COUNCIL AND TELLS THEM TO MOBILISE/ DEMONSTRATIONS IN BAGHDAD AGAINST U.N. INSPECTORS

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Sunday (July 26) told his command council Iraq had to mobilise because their enemies still wanted war. He said the principles under which Iraqis had struggled during the 1991 Gulf War would remain firm. Speaking to senior officials during a medal-giving ceremony, Saddam said that the banner of principles under which Iraqis struggled during the "Mother of Battles" would remain high.

The Iraqi News Agency quoted him as saying that "the masses" had expressed their "readiness to defend the homeland" and foil conspiracies aimed at undermining Iraq's security and sovereignty.

Saddam Hussein made the remarks before the United Nations (U.N.) announcement that it had been given permission to inspect Baghdad's agriculture ministry for alleged weapons secrets.

Several hundred angry demonstrators marched in front of hotels where U.N. inspectors were staying. They brandished banners and shouted slogans against the United States and the Security Council.

Kindly visit the Web Link to see the Demonstrations on 10 Aug 1992 at 1300 Hrs

<https://reuters.screenocean.com/record/500822>

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